



HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT

WELFARE & SOCIAL SERVICES DIVISION

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SUTTER COUNTY SPECIALIZED CARE INCREMENTS

		January 1, 2008 Forward*
Level A	Intensive Care	\$210.00
Level B	Severe Care	\$315.00
Level C	Exceptional Care	\$420.00
Level D	M/H and/or Drug/Alcohol Condition	\$1365

*Increased per ACL 08-01

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Sutter County Specialized Care Increment Assessment Tool

Child's Name: _____ Child's DOB: _____

Case Name: _____

To assist social workers in using this form, a baseline description of the foster child who would not qualify for any level of specialized care is as follows:

- The child is within the normal range for physical development for his/her age.
- The child is within the normal range for emotional, social, behavioral development.
- The child shows the expected level of separation anxiety following the removal from home.
- The child presents only mild symptoms of damage as a result of abuse/neglect experienced in the home.
- The child shows the expected degree of posttraumatic stress associated with experiencing any abuse/neglect.
- The child has no problems or very minor problems in the educational setting.
- The child has no medical problems or conditions except for the expected childhood illnesses, and/or other occasional illnesses, which are routinely treated by any pediatrician or any general or family practice physician.
- The child has the expected behavioral problems for the age and developmental level, and responds well to ordinary and reasonable parenting practices by the foster parents.

If the foster child being considered does not fit the above criteria then proceed to complete the form.

Instructions:

1. To complete this form simply read through each category and check those factors which apply.
2. There may be checkmarks in more than one category.
3. After reviewing all four categories, select the one, which best matches the child's needs.
4. It is expected that a child for whom the Level D Mental Health and/or Drug or Alcohol Condition is sought, may have many factors identified in category C as well as some in category D.
5. There will be instances in which only one checkmark in a category would justify the rate, i.e. the child is a danger to self, or the child has terminal cancer, or the medical follow-up requires only four visits per month but each trip is 450 miles round trip to Stanford. In most instances the social worker will determine the category by choosing the one with the greatest number of checkmarks or the category which overall best matches the needs identified across all of the categories. When deciding between categories, the social worker should consider the child's needs from the perspective of the foster parents time, energy, and cost required to meet that need.

Level A: Intensive Care

Intensive Care is paid at the age based state foster family home rate plus the Level A increment.

Intensive Care will be provided when the child's physical or emotional state and/or behavior is such that age appropriate supervision and care is not sufficient to ensure the safety and well-being of the child.

Criteria for Intensive Care would include:

- ☐ The child has a chronic medical condition such as asthma, epilepsy, or heart condition which requires more frequent and specialized treatment not available through the regular pediatrician or general or family physician, etc.
Specify:_____
- ☐ The child has moderate educational problems and/or learning disabilities requiring that the foster parent meet with school personnel twice-a-month
Specify:_____
- ☐ The child has moderate symptoms of drug withdrawal, or moderately severe chronic conditions, such as delayed development resulting from prenatal drug exposure.
Specify:_____
- ☐ The child has moderately severe, documented behavioral/emotional problems.
Specify:_____
- ☐ More than two medical or professional service appointments per month are required; and
- ☐ A travel distance of more than 75 miles (round-trip) is required for appointments.

Level B: Severe Care

Severe Care is paid at the age based state foster family home rate plus the Level B increment. Severe Care will be provided when the child's physical or emotional state and/or behavior is such that age appropriate supervision and care is not sufficient to ensure the safety and well-being of the child.

Criteria for Severe Care would include:

- ☐ The child has a medical condition which requires continual monitoring of environmental conditions such as temperature and air quality, or more than ordinary care in food preparation, etc.
Specify:_____
- ☐ The child has severe educational problems requiring more than three meetings per month with school personnel.
Specify:_____
- ☐ The child has severe drug withdrawal symptoms or severe chronic conditions, such as delayed development resulting from prenatal drug exposure or medical issues.
Specify:_____
- ☐ The child has persistent enuresis, mild to moderate encopresis, severe ADHD, persistent behavioral/emotional problems, severe development delays, etc.
Specify:_____
- ☐ More than three medical or professional service appointments per month are required; and
- ☐ A travel distance of more than 75 miles (round trip) is required for appointments.

Level C: Exceptional Care

Exceptional Care is paid at the age based state foster family home rate plus the Level C increment. Exceptional care will be provided when the child has severe emotional/behavioral and/or physical problems requiring the highest level of family foster care available in the regularly licensed county foster homes to insure adequate supervision and care. Criteria for Exceptional Care would include:

- ☐ The child has a severe medical condition, which requires in-home monitoring by medical professionals and some use of medical equipment by the foster parents.
Specify:_____
- ☐ The child is severely emotionally disturbed in the educational setting and at risk of more restrictive out-of-home placement.
Specify:_____
- ☐ The child suffers severe medical and/or developmental consequences such as those from prenatal drug exposure.
Specify:_____
- ☐ The child is “system of care” eligible and at risk of more restrictive out-of-home placement.
Specify:_____
- ☐ The child has severe emotional/behavioral problems such as substance abuse, self-destructive behavior and/or severe depression and severe anxiety, and/or is sometimes destructive of property and/or physically assaultive; and/or has severe encoporesis.
Specify: _____
- ☐ More than four medical or professional service visits per month are required; and;
- ☐ A travel distance of more than 75 miles (round trip) is required for appointments.

Level D: Mental Health and/or Drug or Alcohol Condition:

Mental Health and/or Drug or Alcohol Condition is paid at the age based state foster family home rate plus the Level D increment. Mental Health and/or Drug or Alcohol Condition increment will be provided when the child has a need for treatment of severe mental or behavioral disorders. Criteria for Mental Health and/or Drug or Alcohol Condition are:

- ☐ The child has a diagnosed mental health condition requiring immediate and ongoing treatment
- ☐ The child has a diagnosed drug or alcohol addiction requiring immediate and ongoing treatment in a licensed rehabilitation treatment center. (NOTE: Provider must be a licensed and certified Mental Health Facility which provides residential treatment for drug and alcohol addiction. In addition the provider must have staff that is qualified and required to provide at a minimum, three hours of group counseling and two hours of personal counseling per week.)
- ☐ Child is an adjudicated Ward of the Juvenile Court (“602)
- ☐ Child has a documented history of fire starting.

Other factors to consider for Level D include:

- ☐ The child is severely emotionally disturbed in the educational setting and at risk of more restrictive out-of-home placement.
- ☐ The child suffers severe medical, and/or developmental complications of prenatal drug exposure to the extent that constant one on one supervision by others is necessary.
Specify:_____
- ☐ The child is frequently a danger to self or others.
- ☐ The child has severe emotional/behavioral problems such as substance abuse, self-destructive behavior, severe depression and/or anxiety, and is frequently destructive of property and/or physically assaultive.
Specify:_____
- ☐ More than five medical and professional services visits per month along with in-home intervention by professionals is required to maintain the child in the placement.
- ☐ A travel distance of more than 75 miles (round trip) is required for appointments.

Proposed Rate:_____

Additional justification if requested by supervisor:

Additional justification if requested by the Program Manager:



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CLASSIFICATION OF SPECIAL RATE QUALIFYING FACTORS

LEVEL A: INTENSIVE CARE

Intensive level of care needed due to one or more of the following conditions:

1. Physical, emotional or medical problems requiring an unusual number of trips to the physician and/or therapist.
2. Recurrent out-of-county trips to the physician and/or therapist.
3. Drug withdrawal symptoms requiring an unusual number of physician or other types of medical contacts.
4. Children who are considered to be "Medically Fragile" including, but not limited to those who test as HIV positive.
5. Children who have symptoms of, or are diagnosed as having AIDS whether or not the symptoms are present.

LEVEL B: SEVERE CARE

Child has severe behavioral or physical problems requiring high level of supervision and care:

1. Severe emotional or behavioral problems, destructive behavior, running away, assaultive behavior, stealing, abnormal sexual behavior.
2. Severe problems in school requiring frequent foster parent interaction with educational personnel.
3. Severe medical complications as a result of prenatal drug exposure requiring frequent medical treatment and in-home monitoring.

LEVEL C: EXCEPTIONAL CARE:

Child has exceptional problems or conditions requiring constant care:

1. Developmentally disabled or emotionally disturbed.
2. Special nursing and other medical staff or professional supervision and structure required for medical condition.

LEVEL D: MENTAL HEALTH AND/OR DRUG OR ALCOHOL CONDITION:

Child has a diagnosed Mental Health or drug addiction condition:

1. Diagnosed Mental Health condition requiring immediate and ongoing treatment.
2. Diagnosed drug or alcohol addiction requiring immediate and ongoing treatment in a licensed rehabilitation treatment center. (NOTE: Provider must be a licensed and certified Mental Health Facility which provides residential treatment for drug and alcohol addiction. In addition the provider must have staff that is qualified and required to provide at a minimum, three hours of group counseling and two hours of personal counseling per week.)
3. Child is an adjudicated Ward of the Juvenile Court ("602).
4. Child has a documented history of fire starting.

Methodologies Used:

A workgroup of child welfare leadership and foster care placement workers including a Program Manager, Analyst, Social Worker IVs and county licensing staff convened to establish criteria needed to ensure the proper placement for children with specialized care needs. Qualifying factors were determined to identify the additional care and supervision needs of children that are above what is typical to children in foster care.